overdose of Paracetamol, officially classified as prescription drug in India but is being sold over the counters;

(b) whether FDA of US has made it mandatory for the drug companies to display warning notice on label for Paracetamol; and

(c) whether India is considering to follow suit by introducing Mandatory Warning Label for Paracetamol?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Office of Drugs Controller General (India) had taken note of the information that US FDA non prescription Advisory Committee recommended that all OTC products in which acaetaminophen (Paracetamol) is an active ingredient should clearly give explicit warning about the possibility of liver toxicity with overdose of Paracetamol. However, Paracetamol is not a prescription item in India and can be sold over the counter.

(b) Specific information in this regard is not available with the Office of Drugs Controller General (India).

(c) The Drug Technical Advisory Board in its 52nd meeting considered the above matter and on its recommendation State Licensing Authorities and Drugs Manufacturers Associations have been directed to ask the manufacturers of Paracetamol formulations to give a cautionary note on the label that "overdose may be injurious to liver".

Fertilizer capacity in the country

375. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the fertilizer capacity in the country-feedstock-wise (gas-based/ naptha-based);

(b) the fertilizer requirement of the country;

(c) whether the demand was depressed during the last three years due to bad monsoon; and

(d) if so the amount of fertilizer that would have to be imported?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) Feedstock-wise urea capacity, in the country is given below :

Feedstock	Annual Installed Capacity (in Lakh MTs)
Fuel Oil	20.18
Naphtha	63.19
Gas	121.75
TOTAL :	205.12

In case of DAP, complexes and SSP, production capacity is mainly based on imported raw materials/intermediates^ namely rock phosphate, sulphar, phosphoric acid, ammonia and MOP. There being no reserves of MOP in the country, the entire requirement including for direct application by farmers is met through imports.

(b) Consumption of major fertilizers, namely, urea, DAP and MOP for the last three years is given as under:

Year	Product (in Lakh MTs)		
	Urea	DAP	MOP
2000-01	191.87	58.85	18.29
2001-02	199.17	61.81	19.92
2002-03	184.93	54.73	19.12

(c) The sales of major fertilizers were generally depressed due to unfavourable monsoon in many parts of the country during the last three years.

(d) India has achieved near self-sufficiency in urea and total self-sufficiency in production capacity of DAP, complexes and SSP at present level of requirement. However, import of major fertilizers except urea is decanalized and their import is dependent on actual production, demand in domestic market and opening stocks. On the other hand, while demand is influenced by many factors and more importantly on timely arrival and spread of monsoon across the country, production is largely dependent on domestic requirement of these fertilizers. Except for import of 2.2 Lakh MT urea for supplementing pipeline stocks during 2001-02 there was no import of urea in 2002-03 as it was a drought year. During the current year also, there has not been any import of urea despite well distributed and timely monsoon across the country. In case of DAP and MOP, imports during the last three years are as follows :

Year	Imports in Lakh MT	
	DAP	MOP
2000-01	8.60	25.68
2001-02	9.33	28.34
2002-03	3.70	25.33
2003-04 (Upto 30th November, 2003)	6.32	18.30

Progress in Assam Gas Cracker Project

376. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state issues yet to be resolved and target set to complete all clearances towards implementation of Assam Gas Cracker Project showing progress made till date?:

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH) : The main issue yet to be resolved is the subsidy for supplying feedstock (Gas/LPG) for the project at concessional rate. Action has been initiated for the expeditious resolution of this issue.

Liabilities for overcharging

377. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to the recent judgement of the Supreme Court, the Drug Manufacturers have been asked to pay 50 per cent of their total liabilities for over-charging the bulk drug prices *vis-a-vis* notified price of the Government of India;

(b) if so, the names of the drug manufacturers/firms and their liabilities involved on the basis of Supreme Court judgement;

(c) the names of parties who have deposited their liabilities and the names of the defaulters as on 30th November, 2003; and

(d) the action Government have taken or propose to take against those companies who have not deposited their liabilities despite Suoreme Court judgement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRA PAL SINGH): (a) to (d) In its